



## SWARC NEWS-12/24

### Notes from KO4ZFO (Rodney)

Dear SWARC members,

“Thank you all for coming out and celebrating the holiday season and the end to another great year. We would also like to thank Christine Fernandini - KJ4AEO, for all of the hard work she has done over the years. I hope that all of you have a safe, warm, and happy holidays!”

We have been asked by the Legion to provide four or more members to assist with serving dinner at their January 9, 2025 meeting. We will do this to strengthen our relationship with the AL Post 116. Reach out to me if you can help.

#### Monthly Reminders

Please remember our fellow members who are dealing with various medical situations. Please reach out to these members. Even a phone call can brighten their day and give them encouragement through their recovery.

We ask you to keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:



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Gary, KO4LQX, Kenny, KJ4CVK, Steve, KA0GMY, and Bernie Jones, N4BAJ.

Steve, KA0GMY, continues to have health issues of various and sundry sorts so remember him and his family.

Gary Plante, KO4LQX, reports:

We did have a good Thanksgiving and I hope you did as well.  
My scans all came out well so the immunotherapy is still working.  
I may start checking into the afternoon nets once in a while because the night time nets don't work so well as we have a new dog and I'm usually bringing him out in the yard around that time before we wind down and watch tv for the night. Hope all is well with you and everybody in the club. Stay safe, Gary. (Report from Richard Hall this past week).

Kenny (KJ4CVK), has ongoing health issues, so keep him in your thoughts.

Bernie (N4BAJ) has pulled back from many activities due to the length of his recovery. His health has improved and we look forward to his in-person participation in the near future.

Lastly, I want to remind you that we are now taking online payments for dues and donations. We currently have a link on our website which allows you to pay your dues or make a donation. Please let us know when you pay online by emailing me, so that I can ensure your payment is marked either for dues or a donation.



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Rodney  
KO4ZFO

### Notes from NW3U (Dave)

Hello SWARC Members,

From the VP, there will be no formal program for the January meeting, but I am working on a little demonstration of hot spots.

I want to remind everyone that there is a public service net at 7:00 pm on the last Wednesday of each month on the 146.64 repeater. You don't have to have been involved before to participate in the net; you can just listen in unless something said piques an interest with you.

Dave, NW3U

### SWARC 4 December 2024 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held in the usual place at the usual time. Thanks to all who brought something for us to partake of.

The meeting began at 7:01 pm with Pledge of Allegiance led by Fred, KQ4RPP. Following the pledge, we introduced ourselves around the room as we had new faces among the members present.



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Attendees: Bill (KK4QDZ), Rodney (KO4ZFO), wife Amy and son Sean, Richard (K7RLH), Don (KN4OEY), Paul (KN4NGI), Rich (KZ4ET) and wife Jane, Phil (KQ4MSQ), Robert (KQ4GSA), Dave (NW3U), Steve (WB4SMS), Rose Hampton (no call), Ken (KN4GUS), Fred (KQ4RPP), Matt (KE4NIP), David (KQ4QEH), Christy (KJ4AEO), Ron (K4AAA) and wife, Paula.

### **Old/Unfinished Business**

Reminder—the Legion will have a cleanup session on 7 December from 9:00 am-1:00 pm and we are encouraged to attend and help out as a show of good faith.

### **New Business**

Steve (WB4SMS) moved that we donate \$50 to RARS for the NCQSO Party awards like we have done for several years. Seconded and passed; check will be mailed by Christy.

Steve (KA0GMY), aka 'Big Ugly' came forward and laudably recognized Christy Fernandini (KJ4AEO) for her 15 years+ contribution and service to the club as our treasurer. He apologized for not making the recognition earlier in her tenure. President Rodney (KO4ZFO) presented Christy with a Certificate of Appreciation for said duties for the club, and, in addition, he presented her with a plaque signifying her as the Club Amateur of the Year. She also received a \$100 gift card.

### **Reports and Program/Presentation**



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There was no program since this was a purely social event and clearly everyone enjoyed chatting with fellow hams and club members.

### Public Service

The season is over for 2024 and will resume early in 2025 around March with the Odyssey of the Mind competition.

*Check the [HPSNC.org](http://HPSNC.org) web site often for Public Service opportunities. The public service season is very active and events need volunteers.* You may also get to public service events on the RARS and SWARC websites.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Christy Fernandini's report detailed income of \$35.00 in dues with expenses of \$286.32 comprised of the \$285 to Travis Russell (see last month's meeting notes) and \$1.32 for Square charges. Balance of \$2,572.39 with no obligated funds or invoices outstanding. This, of course, is before the check approved in New Business was written.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm more or less.

Respectfully submitted,  
Richard Hall K7RLH  
Secretary and Newsletter Editor



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### MEMBERSHIP

You can bring a check or cash for dues to the next meeting or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will advise she has received them. Also, you can now renew online by contacting Christy and giving her the appropriate credit card info for the 'Square' account. Christy's email is [christyfernandini@outlook.com](mailto:christyfernandini@outlook.com). Make checks payable to South Wake ARC and send to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

### NET REPORT

SWARC Group – November 2024

The monthly total of check-ins was 163—a small decrease from last month! Note that **not** all net controls record their counts so numbers could actually be higher than recorded.

- Saturday and Sunday evenings will be called by KT4JR & K7RLH
- KO4ZFO will call Monday evenings
- KN4OEY will call Tuesday evenings
- KK4BK will call Wednesday evenings except on meeting nights
- KO4ZFO or a board member will call Thursday evenings





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- Fridays will continue to be called by NC4MP
- And we need backups – JUST BECAUSE.

Please contact Rodney Warren (KO4ZFO) or Don Nicholson (KN4OEY), if you are interested in calling one or more nets. **If you are a scheduled net controller and you are not able to call your net, please reach out and ask someone else to call it for you!**

## SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of its members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service. Refer to the SWARC web site for the Board of Directors/Officers and Appointed Positions.

**LINKS** (if you have other links you want added then send them to me)

**PRN**

***A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network***

[www.ncprn.net](http://www.ncprn.net)

***GigaParts***

[www.gigaparts.com](http://www.gigaparts.com)



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***QRZ***

[www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

***Ham Radio Outlet HRO***

[www.hamradio.com](http://www.hamradio.com)

***Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS***

[www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)

***Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS***

[www.jars.net](http://www.jars.net)

***South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC***

[www.southwakearc.com](http://www.southwakearc.com)

***Carolina 440 Network***

[www.carolina440.net](http://www.carolina440.net)

***North Carolina Packet***

[www.ncpacket.com](http://www.ncpacket.com)

***TARPN (Terrestrial Amateur Packet Radio Net)***

[www.tarpn.net](http://www.tarpn.net)

***Useful Ham Info***

[www.torborg.com/a](http://www.torborg.com/a)

***Five County Ham Radio Enthusiasts***

[www.fivecountyhre.org](http://www.fivecountyhre.org)



[John E. Ross, KD8IDJ](#), Editor | December 5, 2024

[ARRL Home Page](#)

[ARRL Letter Archive](#)

[ARRL Audio News](#)







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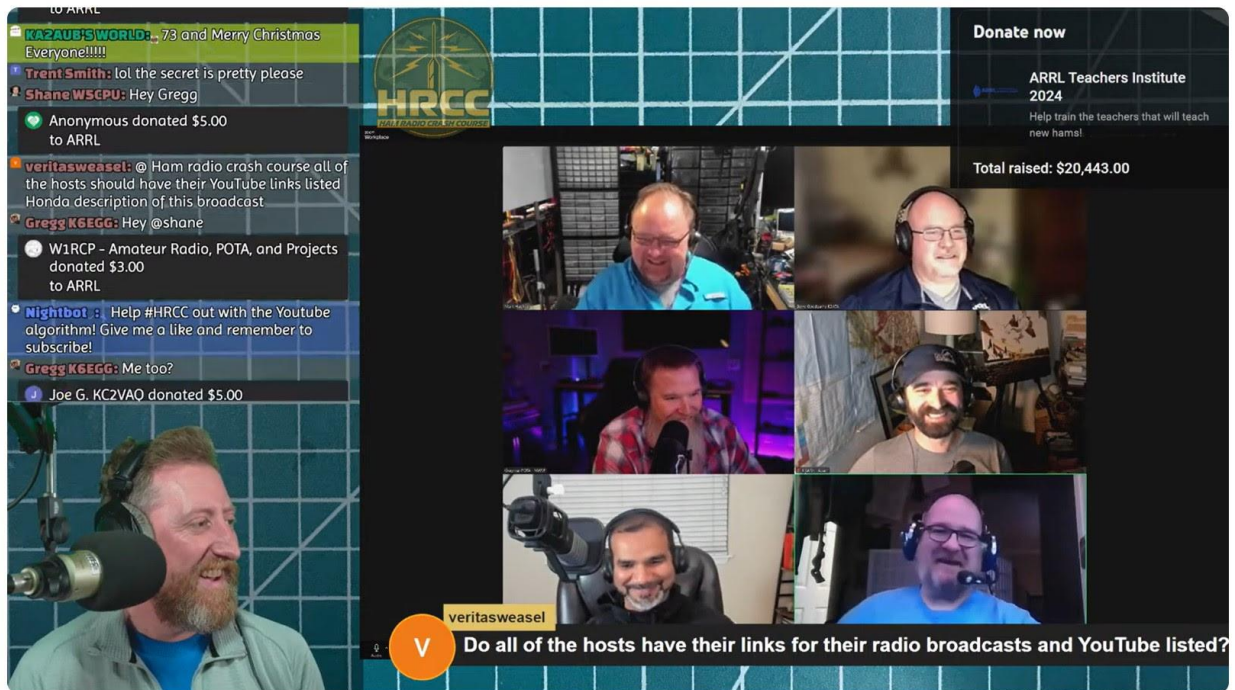
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### **\$41,000+ Raised by Donors, YouTubers, for ARRL Teachers Institute**

A YouTube telethon to raise money for the [ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology](#) had a resounding success. More than \$21,000 was contributed during the livestream, which unlocked a \$20,000 challenge gift that donors had set out as a challenge gift. ARRL Director of Development Kevin B. K8EAL, says that upped the ante. “It's quite clear that even with the generosity of the donors and their attendance, the challenge gift really pushed everyone until the end to meet that goal.” There were 430 gifts made and the most frequent was \$20.



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ARRL Teachers Institute Fundraiser And Tech Talk



Ham Radio Crash Course

Join



Subscribed



422



Share



Download



Clip



Save



The event, hosted by YouTuber Josh Nass, KI6NAZ, on his popular [Ham Radio Crash Course](#) drew thousands of views. On the stream, several teachers and students who have benefited from the program shared their stories of success. “We were glad that teachers Everton Henriques and Drew Moore joined us on the stream. Two of Everton's students attended and were inspirational and impressive. They're the whole reason why we're doing this,” said Beal.

A face familiar to longtime ARRL members also paid a visit via video. Former ARRL President Craigie, N3KN, shared her memories of the origins of the ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireline Technology, which she pioneered. “People have stepped up in just the most wonderful ways over the years. Large donations, small donations — whatever people are able to do — have made it possible to continue this program,” she told Beal in a video call.

Craigie attributed the program’s success to its flexibility and how it can evolve to meet the changing needs of educators. ARRL Education and Learning Manager Steve Goodgame, K5ATA, hopes to bring the program again for 2025. “We’re taking it on the road. Historically, we’ve flown teachers



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ARRL Headquarters (in Newington, Connecticut), but we want to go meet some of them who are,” said Goodgame.

The program has lofty goals for expansion next year. In 2024, there were 7 cohorts – next year we have 16. “We’re grateful to everyone who participated in the livestream, whether they watched it, shared it, or donated to it,” said Goodgame. “They are enabling us to continue this growth.”

A replay of the live telethon can be seen [at this link](#). If you’d like to contribute to the future of Teachers Institutes on Wireless Technology, visit [www.arrl.org/GiveToSTEM](http://www.arrl.org/GiveToSTEM).



### Register for 25th Annual SKYWARN Recognition Day, December 7

The 25th Annual SKYWARN™ Recognition Day (SRD) is Saturday, December 7. SRD recognizes the work of amateur and non-ham SKYWARN storm spotters in keeping their communities safe during severe weather. Trained spotters provide observations of “ground truth” to regional National Weather Service (NWS) offices.







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While meteorologists have advanced remote sensing data like radar, satellite, and weather in networks available to them, the technology isn't granular enough to replace trained human observers. Via amateur radio repeaters, smartphone apps, phone calls, GMRS radios, and other means, SKYWARN spotters make sure the NWS has the information needed to make good warning advisory decisions.

"Weather spotters provide extremely valuable information to both NWS and local emergency management officials," said ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KES1. Johnston served as an Emergency Management Director in Arkansas for 17 years before coming to lead ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) program. "The ground truth that they provide is vital during storms for responder safety as well as alerting the citizens of the community."

In 1999, ARRL and NWS came together to recognize the importance of these spotters to the warning process, creating SKYWARN Recognition Day. SRD features an on-air operating event in which radio operators activate many of the NWS office stations, and other radio amateurs try to work as many of them as possible. Read more about the event at [www.arrl.org/skywarn-recognition-day](http://www.arrl.org/skywarn-recognition-day).

ARRL will be on the air from ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, as WX1AW for portions of the event. QSL cards and certificates of participation will be available.

Participants are encouraged to [register for 2024 SKYWARN Recognition Day at this link](#).

### **2025 Youth on the Air Camp Application Period Open**

Applications are now being accepted for campers interested in attending the 2025 Youth on the Air Camp. Licensed amateur radio operators, ages 15 through 25, who want to attend are encouraged to apply online at [YouthOnTheAir.org](http://YouthOnTheAir.org). The camp is scheduled to take place June 15 - 20, 2025, in Thornton (Denver), Colorado and the [Denver Radio Club](#), an ARRL Affiliated Club, is the local host.



**Youth on the Air**

The current application period is for the fifth camp for young amateur radio operators in North America, Central, and South America. For the best chance at being selected, applications should be submitted by 2359Z on January 15, 2025. Campers will be selected by the working group and notified by email.



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1.

To encourage attendance from across the Americas, allocations for campers are being held in various areas of North, Central, and South America. If countries do not use their allocation or someone within an allocation declines acceptance, those positions will be filled from the remainder of applicants. As this will be an ongoing process, everyone will not receive notification of acceptance at the same time. Preference will be given to first-time attendees.

Applications will continue to be accepted through May 1 and up to 50 campers will be accepted. The application process is free, but a \$100 USD deposit is required upon acceptance. Should a potential camper be unable to pay the \$100 deposit, they may apply for a scholarship or waiver. Campers are also responsible for their own arrival and departure transportation to the camp location. Travel assistance may also be available, especially for those traveling from outside of the USA and Canada. Travel during camp events is provided.

For details about the camp, visit the camp web page at [YouthOnTheAir.org](http://YouthOnTheAir.org) or email Camp Director Neil Rapp, WB9VPG, at [director@youthontheair.org](mailto:director@youthontheair.org).



**Get on the Air in December with ARRL 160- and 10-Meter Contests**



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December brings two ARRL-sponsored single-band contests. The ARRL 160-Meter Contest begins Friday, December 6 at 2200 UTC and concludes on Sunday, December 8 at 1559 UTC. Stations in the US (including Alaska, Hawaii, and US possessions) and Canada can contact any station; stations located overseas can only contact US and Canadian stations. Contacts may be made using the CW mode only. See the contest rules at [www.arrl.org/160-meter](http://www.arrl.org/160-meter) for more information.

Next weekend, the ARRL 10-Meter Contest begins on Saturday, December 14 at 0000 UTC (evening in North America), and concludes on Sunday, December 15 at 2359 UTC. Stations may contact any other station, regardless of location, using CW and phone. All stations send a signal report. Stations located in the US and Canada (including Alaska and Hawaii) send their state or province. Mexican stations send their state; DX stations send a serial number. Contest rules are available at [contests.arrl.org/10m/](http://contests.arrl.org/10m/).

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### Amateur Radio in the News

[“Grimes County nonprofit seeks donations to buy communication trailer”](#) / 25 ABC KXXV  
November 30, 2024 --The Grimes County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) is an  
Affiliated Club.





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[“Joplin Amateur Radio Club connecting kids with Santa in special event”](#) / KSNF (Missouri) December 3, 2024 -- *The Joplin Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*

[“Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club offers free classes on ham radio starting Jan. 11”](#) / The Daily Herald (Illinois) December 3, 2024 -- *The Schaumburg Amateur Radio Club is an ARRL Affiliated Club.*



### ARRL Podcasts



*On the Air*  
*Sponsored by Icom*

### December YOTA Month is Coming

December is Youth on the Air Month, also known as YOTA, and there are plans to celebrate young operators all month long. Blake Pearson, KN4VKY, one of the Americas YOTA Month Participation Coordinators, joins the podcast to explain how hams can apply to use one of the official YOTA Month call signs and how you can take part in the YOTA Month operating event, no matter what age you are.



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### ARRL Audio News

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday. ARRL Audio News is a summary of the week's top news stories in the world of amateur radio and ARRL, along with interviews and other content.

The On the Air podcast and ARRL Audio News are available on Amazon Music, Spotify, Google Play, Apple Podcasts, and Apple Music.

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### In Brief...

On December 17, 1903, after years of “tinkering” in their Dayton, Ohio, bicycle shop, **Orville and Wilbur Wright** made their first three flights in their new flying machine. [The Bellbrook Radio Club](#) (BARC) in Dayton will commemorate 121 years of the Wright brothers’ first flight with a special event station W8W on December 17, 2024, from 1400z - 2100z. Operation will be on 14.317, and 21.317 MHz on all modes. An E-certificate is available by email at [WrightFlight@bellbrookarc.org](mailto:WrightFlight@bellbrookarc.org).

The annual Lighthouse Christmas Lights (LCL) operating event begins Saturday December 28, 2024, 0001Z and runs through 2359Z January 1, 2025. Sponsored by the [Amateur Radio](#)



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[Lighthouse Society](#) (ARLS), the event promotes public awareness of amateur radio and lighthouses and contributes to the recognition of lighthouses, lightships, and their keepers. Licensed amateurs may use any and all bands, including WARC, and all modes that convey sufficient exchange data, including SSB, CW, RTTY, PSK, FM, and SSTV. A list of suggested SSB frequencies and CW frequencies can be found at the club's [website](#).

**The [Battleship IOWA Amateur Radio Association](#) (BIARA) and the Iowa's Innovation, Engineering and Technology Team (IET) will activate the ship's original NEPM Navy call sign on December 7 - 8, 2024. Hours of operation both days are expected to be from 0700 PST (0100 UTC) to 1700 PST (0100 UTC).** This activation will be in memory of the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor and all the radio amateurs and aficionados who answered the call, taking their skills into the military and civilian war efforts.

ARRL requested, and received from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), a waiver under Section 97.111(a) to allow appropriately licensed amateur radio operators to work NEPM for this limited event. Amateurs are reminded that they may not transmit on the military frequencies reserved for NEPM. Amateur radio operators must operate within the privileges of their licenses. Licensees in countries not under the FCC's jurisdiction are advised to refer to the regulations imposed by their respective licensing agencies before calling NEPM. All phone operations are on upper sideband. Here are the NEPM frequencies and modes:

Transmit Freq/Mode ... Listening Freq/Mode

- 7.469 MHz USB/J3E ... 7.261 MHz USB/J3E
- 12.382 MHz CW/A1A ... 14.061 MHz CW/A1A
- 14.667 MHz USB/J3E ... 14.261 MHz USB/J3E
- 19.160 MHz RTTY ... 21.150 MHz RTTY
- 21.856 MHz USB/J3E ... 21.361 MHz USB/J3E

The listening frequencies are a starting point. The operator will tell you where NEPM is listening to minimize causing interference to stations in band. For an NEPM QSL please follow the instructions found on the [BIARA website](#). The USS Iowa is moored at Port of Los Angeles.

### Announcements





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**Soheila Bana, KO6GTV, Richmond California councilwoman and head of the city's Public Safety Committee, passed her amateur radio license test and is now a licensed Technician class amateur radio operator.** On Saturday November 9, 2024, the Brickyard Landing Home Owners Association (HOA) hosted a one-day Technician License Class and VE Test Session. The HOA has an active amateur radio/Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) presence and supports "reasonable" antenna requests to further that objective. They are also looking at creating a club station in their common area facility for their licensed members. Bana is working to bring VE Test Sessions to the city's community center so that more people can discover amateur radio and be better prepared to respond in the event of a city-wide emergency. In addition to Bana, there were 18 newly licensed hams from Richmond, Berkeley, San Francisco, Oregon and South Dakota who attended the VE Session.



(left to right) Councilwoman Soheila Bana, KO6GTV, ARRL Pacific Division Director John Litz, N6AC, and Rocky Saunders, KM6AC, who helped organize the session for the community. [Photo courtesy of Annie Lewis, N6ACL]



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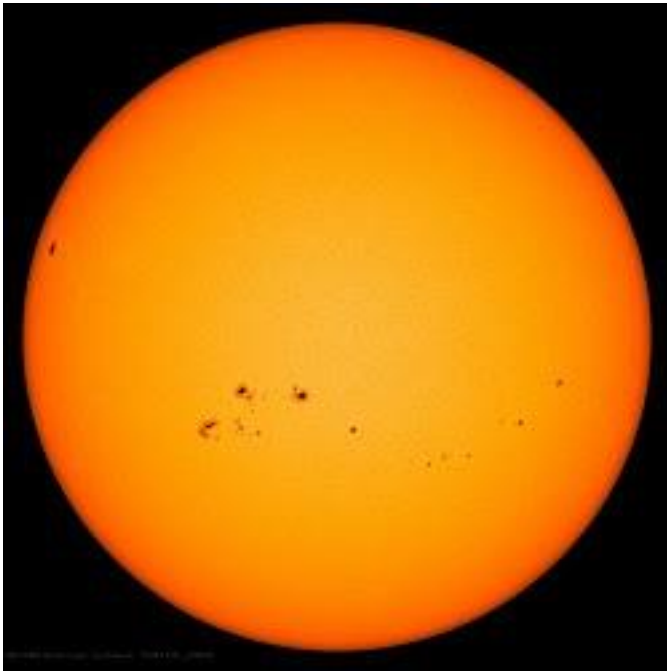
**Dec 4-10**

**Prepp**

**The K7RA Solar Update**



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This image was taken on December 5, 2024. [Photo courtesy of NASA SDO/HMI]

### ARRL Propagation Bulletin 49 ARLP049 Cook, K7RA

Solar activity seems to have dropped dramatically from a recent peak. Are we over the cycle peak and heading down again? Too early to say.

Daily average sunspot numbers this week same as last week.

Predicted solar flux is 175 on December 6 – 8; 175 on December 9 – 10; 175 on December 11 – 12; 175 on December 13 – 17.

Predicted planetary A index is 8 on December 6 – 8; 10 and 5 on December 13 – 15; 8 on December 16 – 18; 12 and 8 on December 19 – 21; 5 on December 21 through January 6, 2025.

Commentary from František "**Franta**" Jand, C1

*“After the unexpected solar proton flare of 21 November, which took place beyond the Sun's limb, a rain of higher-energy protons hit the Earth's atmosphere. This solar radiation storm had a greater impact at higher latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere, where it caused a significant attenuation. Two days later, two new large sunspot groups appeared near the southeastern limb of the Sun. These produced moderate eruptions daily, which is more or less normal for the 11-year maximum. These are AR3905 and AR3906, which have grown rapidly to a size where they could be observed with the naked eye. There is a relatively small coronal hole near them that could be influencing the solar wind enhancement. Following the eruption of a plasma filament near AR3906, a G2 class geomagnetic storm is possible on November 28 - 29, when a coronal mass ejection is expected to impact. However, around 1900 UT on November 28, when this information is was usually, nothing is still happening. We will see what happens next. It is quite possible that the CME cloud will only hit the Earth a little and it is also not out of the question that it will miss the Earth completely. So, any prediction at this point has a low probability of coming true.”*

For more information concerning shortwave radio propagation, see [arrrl.org/propagation](http://arrrl.org/propagation) and





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Technical Information Service web page at, [arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals](https://arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals). For an explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin, see [arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere](https://arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere).

Also, check this.

“[Understanding Solar Indices](#)” from September 2002 QST.

Sunspot numbers for November 28 through December 4, 2024 were 149, 162, 103, 83, 113, 105, with a mean of 120.1. The 10.7 -centimeter flux was 213.9, 219.8, 204, 186.3, 185.3, 174.7, with a mean of 202.2. Estimated planetary A indices were 4, 8, 11, 7, 6, 13, and 7, with a mean of 8.3. Middle latitude A index was 3, 6, 9, 6, 6, 6, 10, and 5, with a mean of 6.

Send your tips, questions, or comments to [k7ra@arrl.net](mailto:k7ra@arrl.net).

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, read "What the Mean....," and [check out](#) the Propagation Page of Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. For customizable propagation charts, visit the [VO Online for Ham Radio website](#).

[Share](#) your reports and observations.

A weekly, full report is posted on [ARRL News](#).

### **Holiday Deals**



## SWARC NEWS-12/24



Celebrate a little holiday cheer with a new deal every day from ARRL in the [online store](https://www.arrl.org/holiday-deals). Beginning Monday, December 9, 2024, ARRL will be offering **7 days** of deals. Sign up at [www.arrl.org/holiday-deals](https://www.arrl.org/holiday-deals) and receive a special ham radio deal every day for 7 days. Members who have opted in to receive special offers and publication announcements will automatically receive a series of deals (signing up is not necessary). If you have a user account, you can manage your email preferences at [www.arrl.org/opt-in-out](https://www.arrl.org/opt-in-out). ARRL's 7 days of deals concludes Sunday, December 15, 2024.

Don't forget to check out the special ham radio [holiday guide](#), brought to you by ARRL.

### Just Ahead in Radiosport

- December 5 -- QRP ARCI Topband Sprint (CW)
- December 5 - 6 -- Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest (CW)
- December 5 -- NRAU 10m Activity Contest (CW, phone, digital)
- December 5 -- SKCC Sprint Europe (CW)
- December 6 - 8 -- [ARRL 160-Meter Contest](#) (CW)
- December 7 - 8 -- Kalbar Contest (phone)
- December 7 -- Wake-Up! QRP Sprint (CW)
- December 7 - 8 -- PRO CW Contest (CW)
- December 7 - 8 -- INORC Contest (CW)
- December 7 - 8 -- FT Roundup (digital)
- December 8 -- QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Sprint (CW)
- December 9 -- 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint (CW, phone)
- December 10 -- Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest (phone)



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- December 11 -- NAQCC CW Sprint (CW)
- December 11 -- Phone Weekly Test (phone)
- December 11 -- VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest (digital)

Visit the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more events and information.



### Upcoming Section, State, and Division Conventions

- December 13 - 14 | [Tampa Bay Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL West Central Florida Convention, Plant City, Florida
- January 4 | [Ham Radio University](#), sponsoring the ARRL New York City-Long Island Convention, Brookville, New York
- January 10 - 11 | 2025 [Southwest Florida Regional Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL South Florida Section Convention, Fort Myers, Florida
- January 17 - 18 | [Cowtown Hamfest 25](#), sponsoring the ARRL North Texas Section Convention, Forest Hill, Texas
- January 31 - February 1 | [Jackson MS Capital City Hamfest 2025](#), sponsoring the ARRL Mississippi Section Convention, Jackson, Mississippi
- February 7 - 9 | [Orlando HamCation](#), sponsoring the ARRL Southeastern Division Convention, Orlando, Florida
- February 8 | [Hendricks County Hamfest](#), sponsoring the ARRL Indiana Section Convention, Danville, Indiana

Search the [ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database](#) to find events in your area.



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The advertisement features a stack of "THE ARRL HANDBOOK FOR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS" books. A red banner at the top right says "NEW RELEASE". On the left, the text reads: "HANDBOOK 101", "Introducing a new editor, Gregory D. Lapin, PhD, PE, N9GL", and "Major Updates:" followed by a bulleted list: "• Radio fundamentals", "• Transmission lines", "• General safety", and "• Assembling a station". The books have a white cover with the ARRL logo and the title "THE ARRL HANDBOOK FOR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS" in black, with "101" in blue at the bottom right.

### Did You Know?



ARRL member Peyton Barnes Jr, KE5ZDZ, got help resolving FT8 issues by contacting the Technical Information Service as part of his ARRL member benefits. He stated, "Thank you for working with me so patiently (resolving my FT8 issues)".

Members can reach the TIS at [tis@arrl.org](mailto:tis@arrl.org) or by calling the 1-888-277-5289.

### Have News for ARRL?

Submissions for *The ARRL Letter* and ARRL News can be sent to [news@arrl.org](mailto:news@arrl.org). -- John E. KD8IDJ, [ARRL News Editor](#)





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Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday.

The ARRL Letter is available in an accessible format, posted weekly to the [Blind-hams Groups.io](#) email group. The group is dedicated to discussions about amateur radio as it concerns blind hams, plus related topics including ham radio use of adaptive technology.

[NCJ -- National Contest Journal](#). Published bimonthly, features a list of top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint, and QSOs.

[QEX -- A Forum for Communications Experimenters](#). Published bimonthly, features technical articles, construction projects, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communication professionals.

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